REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the office action mailed on September 23, 2003. Included herewith is a petition and fee for a 3-month extension of time. A diligent effort has been made to respond to the objections and rejections contained in the office action, and reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of this Amendment.

A.   Status of the Claims

Claims 1-50 have been canceled, without prejudice. New claims 51-64 are pending in this application.

B.   Rejections over Lincke and Sherman

In the September 23, 2003 Office Action, then-pending claims 14-15 and 17-21 were rejected over US 6,360,272 to Lincke under 35 USC 102, with the remaining claims being rejected under 35 USC 103 over Sherman (US 6,505,214) in view of Lincke or Linke in view of Temple ("The complete Idiot's Guide to Microsoft Outlook 2000"). Claim 46 was objected to. Claims 1-50 have now been canceled, however, and thus further discussion of these claim rejections/objections is moot.

New claims 51-64 are presented by this Amendment. These claims more particularly point out and distinctly claim certain aspects of the technology described in this patent application that were not sufficiently detailed in the prior claims 1-50. For example, claim 51 describes a method of synchronizing data messages and command messages between a host system and a mobile communication device via a wireless network. The method includes the following steps: (A) generating data messages at the mobile communication device; (B) immediately transmitting a copy of the data messages to the host system via the wireless network after they are generated at the mobile

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communication device and storing the copies in an electronic data store maintained by the host system and associated with the mobile communication device; (C) executing a plurality of user-initiated commands at the mobile communication device and generating a command message for each of the plurality of user-initiated commands; (D) bundling the command messages together but delaying the transmission of the bundled command messages until a predetermined time has occurred; and (E) transmitting the bundled command messages to the host system via the wireless network after the predetermined time has occurred.

The prior art cited by the Examiner in this case does not disclose all of the steps and limitations of this claim. Specifically, the prior art does not describe a method wherein new data messages generated at the mobile device, such as e-mail messages or calendar event messages, are immediately transmitted over the wireless network to the host system, but command messages are not immediately transmitted, but are instead delayed and bundled together for later transmission. The theory behind this claim is that it is more important to maintain immediate data synchronization but that command synchronization can typically lag behind. Thus, the data stores are continuously synchronized but the processing associated with commands executed at the mobile device is only synchronized after some predetermined period of time.
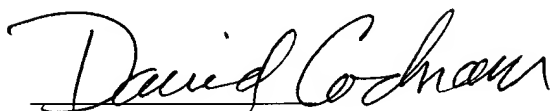
The dependent claims add substantial further steps and limitations that are also missing from the cited art. Claim 60, by way of example only, adds the converse process of immediate data synchronization but delayed command synchronization from the host system to the mobile device.

Claim 61, the other independent claim presented herein, is also distinguishable from the prior art cited in the Office Action. This claim describes a method of synchronizing a host system with a wireless mobile communication device, wherein the host system and the wireless mobile communication device may communicate via a wired connection or a wireless connection. The method includes the following steps: (A) generating data messages and command messages at the wireless mobile communication device; (B) determining whether the wireless mobile communication device is configured to synchronize with the host system via the wired connection or the wireless connection; (C) if the wireless mobile communication device is configured to synchronize via the wireless connection, then bundling together one or more of the data messages and one or more command messages and transmitting the bundled data to the host system via the wireless network; and (D) if the wireless mobile communication device is configured to synchronize via the wired connection, then storing the data messages and command messages at the wireless mobile communication device and transmitting them to the host system after the wireless mobile communication device is coupled to the host system via the wired connection.

All of the steps and limitations from this claim are not found in the cited art. For example, this claim includes the determination of whether the mobile is configured to synchronize over the wired connection or the wireless connection, and if configured to synchronize over the wireless connection, then bundling together data messages with command messages, a process referred to in this application as "piggybacking." None of the cited art describes such a "piggybacking" of commands upon data packets for subsequent synchronization.

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It is believed that all of the claims currently pending in this application are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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